

**City of Fairfield Comments** to State Water Resources Control Board (Board) regarding the Drought Emergency Regulations – Proposed Framework

**Issue:** The City of Fairfield requests clarification on the requirement that Commercial, Industrial and Institutional (CII) water users achieve the same level of conservation as the overall conservation goal for the community.

**Background:** The City of Fairfield's largest industrial customer is the Anheuser-Busch Brewery (A-B). Several years ago, A-B took it upon themselves to reduce water usage as a good business practice that would not only reduce their operating costs, but would also help preserve the local water resources and improve overall sustainability of their operation. As a result, A-B has reduced their usage by 57 percent since 2007 while maintaining similar production levels and meeting their quality standards.

While A-B will continue to take actions to conserve and improve, a mandate for significant water reductions could impact the economic viability of the brewery and put good-paying manufacturing jobs at risk.

**Requested Change:** The City of Fairfield requests that the Board explicitly state that for CII customers, process water be excluded from the water conservation requirements and reporting calculations, unless a City takes specific actions that affect all users in their respective community based on water shortages. The City of Fairfield has invested heavily in local, non-state-water-project supplies to ensure a reliable water supply and we have actively encouraged water intensive industries to locate here. We are well positioned to serve water intensive industry and we need the ability to continue to do so in an effort to recoup our investment, improve the local economy, and help retain and attract business to California.

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